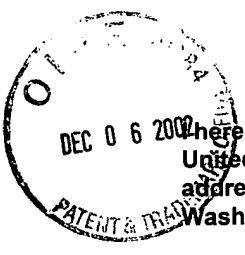


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By: Thomas M. Galgano

Date: December 6, 2002

Docket No. 09-5-6

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : COSMO

SERIAL NO. : 09/460,836

GROUP ART UNIT: 3721

FILED : 12/14/99

EXAMINER: J. Sipos

FOR : Vertical Bagging Apparatus

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT IN REPLY TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 13, 2002, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 7, lines 1-22, rewrite the paragraph as follows:

Referring now to Figure 8, the sealing and severing system 116 includes an L-shaped heated bar 140 and a corresponding L-shaped sealing surface 142. The heated bar 140 is mounted on a first pivot arm 144 and the sealing surface 142 is mounted on a second pivot arm. Each pivot arm has a pair of spaced apart pivot points 144a, 144b, 146a, 146b. The pivot points 144a and 146a are coupled to each other by a rod 148a and

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